



Frederick Winters Hypnotizes Pumas and Amazes Audience

By Sabrina Butts
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day at Saint Joseph's College was not just about hearts and candy. Instead, the Student Union Board (SUB) provided a different kind of evening. They brought in Frederick Winters, a hypnotist of great renown. So instead of cuddling with a sweetheart, students were laughing as their fellow classmates were laying eggs or petting a human pony.

Winters began his performance with a few wise cracks and an explanation of what he did and how he got into the hypnotizing business. All very interesting, but students were practically on the edge of their seats waiting for the good part. So when he asked for a large group of volunteers, many people practically leapt out of their seats to be one of the first people onstage. After selecting a large group of about fifteen students, Winters began his show. Using the power of his voice, he put everyone in a deep sleep, though he promised the students that they were actually awake, just not caring anymore. With the assurance that they would not do something against their

will, student-by-student began to collapse in their chairs, doubling over or falling against their neighbor.

And then the funny part began. Winters played them like puppets on a string as he led them through many different activities, including having them watch movies with their eyes closed and "gluing" their hands together. Though a couple students had to leave because they were no longer under the influence (one of the few influences you can actually just drop out of), many students remained on stage for the entire performance... unless told otherwise.

Winters proceeded to put the Pumas through their paces, sometimes literally when he convinced one student that he was a pony that Santa Claus brought for another student who believed that she was three years old. It became confusing when he woke everyone up by calling "Stop" while the other students on stage were petting the pony.

No student was safe on stage from his attention as he used his power of suggestion over him or her to insist that the men on stage laid eggs at the sound of a cymbal and that their shirts were inside out at hearing the word pizza. The

women had their bras snapped at the same sound of a cymbal and one student raced offstage to greet three people in the audience at the word "Red."

What was truly funny about the entire show is that, afterwards, the students could not quite remember what happened onstage at first. Several students all said that they "remember bits and pieces as people tell me about them, but until then I draw a

blank."

Other students asked the participants if they were actually under. Every one of them confirmed with a yes, especially since they could not quite inform their friends in the audience what actually happened on stage.

Those Pumas who missed out on the show missed out on two opportunities. The first was to get up onstage and have the chance to be hypnotized. The other was

the chance to laugh at their fellow classmates as they fell under the power of suggestion. Luckily for the younger Pumas, Winters is not a stranger to the campus. He was here two years ago. So if you missed the show, or even want to see him again and have the chance yourself to be hypnotized hit up a SUB member and let them know what you want to see on campus.



Winters hypnotizes students to fall asleep (above) and to think a tiny man is running around on the ground (below). Photos courtesy of Elysse Hillyer



Busy Students Take a Time-Out to Reflect

By Amber Melvin
Staff Writer

For Monday, February 15, Tuesday, February 16, and Wednesday, February 17 Campus Ministry put on a Busy Student Retreat. A Busy Student Retreat certainly fits its name.

It is a self scheduled meeting with a Father or a Sister. Father Ken Schnipke, C.P.P.S and Sister Carolyn Hoying, C.P.P.S came in from Dayton, Ohio to meet with the busy students of the campus.

They come in twice a year school year, to help with the two Busy Student Retreats that are held.

Twice a year, the Busy Student Retreat is held, for any students, Catholic or not, to be able to talk to the Fathers and Sister about where their life is going.

The way that the Busy Student Retreat works is whoever would like to do this retreat meets after the 9:00 p.m. mass on the Sunday evening before the three actual days of the retreat.

Since the students are busy, they schedule a time on their own on either Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday to meet and talk with a Father, Brother, or Sister.

The participants have to read certain passages from the Bible by the time they go into the meeting. Once they are in the meeting, they talk about the scripture reading and where their lives are going. They also learn to pray through the scripture readings that are given to them.

The purpose of the retreat is also so students can become closer to God and since they are so busy, they need time to take a break and renew their relationship with God. They will be guided so they can try to figure out what they want to do with their lives.

This retreat teaches you about the "Seven P's for Listening to God," which are "prepare a scripture; place yourself where you can be alone to focus on God's presence; posture should be relaxed and peaceful; be aware of the presence of God; read the

passage; pause and let God speak; and finally, pray honestly." You walk away with a better understanding of things, by letting God in.

Do not fret, if you missed out on this Busy Student Retreat, you will have another chance, once each during first and second semesters.

Photo Courtesy of: <http://choiceandselection.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/>



Upcoming Events

There will be a Self-Defense class open to all students this Tuesday in the Halleck Center Ballroom. Come and learn how to protect yourself from 8-9pm.

On Friday, February 26th, Cup o Joe will be hosting a Rocky Horror Costume Party. Starting at 9 pm, we will be doing the Time Warp dressed up like Transylvanian Transvites or just-dressed to party

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

By Benjamin Kalinowski
News and Media Relations Intern

The Columbian Players of Saint Joseph's College will present the Tony Award winning musical "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" on April 8, 9, and 10 at 8:00 p.m. CDT in the Evans Arts and Science Building Theatre on the SJC campus. Tickets are \$5.00, and admission is free to SJC students, faculty, and staff.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is the hilarious tale of overachievers' angst, chronicling the experience of six adolescent outsiders vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. With music and lyrics by William Finn, this freewheeling musical was nominated for six Tony Awards and won two, including the award for best book.

"This is a really fun show, and we have a very talented cast performing in it," said John Rahe, director and associate professor of Communication and Theater Arts. "One of the things that makes this show unique is that, in addition to the regular cast, four audience volunteers are recruited to compete in the spelling bee each night. The show is rated PG-13 and really isn't intended for younger audience members, but I think the audience that comes to see it will have a good time

and enjoy it a lot. The story is both funny and touching, as the spellers experience one of those watershed moments in everyone's lives that teach you a bit about who you are and shape what you become."

The cast includes: senior Music Education major Sarah Wright from Kokomo, Ind. as Rona; junior Wildlife Ecology major Matt Harmon from Bristol, Ind. as Chip; senior Biology-Chemistry major Kevin Mackowicz from Hammond, Ind. as Leaf; sophomore Theatre Arts major Allie Hillman from Michigan City, Ind. as Schwartz; senior History major Bailey Snider from Valparaiso, Ind. as Olive; senior Music Performance major Mary Katherine Simons from Sylvania, Ohio as Marcy; senior English Literature and Mathematics major Mike Koscielny from Elkhart, Ind. as Vice Principal Panch; junior History major Jordan Leising from Connorsville, Ind. as William Barfee; and senior English Literature major Joe Stewart from LaPorte, Ind. as Mitch. The musical director is senior Music Education major Katherine Misiak from Demotte, Ind., and the choreographer is freshman English Creative Writing major Anna Rohaly from Kokomo, Ind.

For more information about "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," contact John Rahe

Measure Book Sale

By Ashlee Doty
News Editor

On Wednesday February 18 and Friday February 19, Measure held a book sale at the top of the stairs in the Halleck Student Center. The books were donated from members of their community, faculty, and staff of Saint Joseph's College. The sale had all types of

books, from fiction, and science fiction to text books as well as old Core books. When Measure Editor-in-Chief was asked about the sale, "It was a huge success. Everything came together perfectly and we could not have asked for better customers and a better outcome of the sale." After the two day extravaganza was all said and done Measure raised

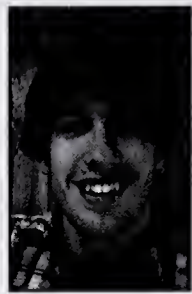
more than they thought that they would. The club is going to use the profits for help in publishing the Measure Literary Magazine as well as some other expenses that the club occurs. Professor Maia Hawthorne has suggested that this book sale become an annual sale, based of the profit and interest that was shown in this one. Measure would just like to thank everyone who came out and showed support for the club as well as the individuals who helped make this sale a huge success. We cannot wait to be what types of books and outcome they have at the next sale.



Photo Above Courtesy of: <http://a2.vox.com/6a00d414259e4a6a470110166c78ba860d-500pi>
Photo Below Courtesy of: <http://stillwater.org/content/2008/images/booksale.jpg>

Danger! Evolution in Progress!

By Mike Koscielny
Editor-in-Chief



Thanks to the Chinese Water Torture that is Core 6, I understand that evolution is a biological process of changing in species over time due to mutation or natural selection. Because evolution takes place over long expanses of time, I wonder if it is ever something I could witness happening. I can see evolution other places—that is, just changes in other things. For example, I've seen quite an evolution of fashion.

Every kid I taught last semester thought it was cool to wear flannel/plaid shirts. Had I student taught three years ago, every kid would have been sporting their cool new pair of Crocs. This concept should make sense to even the most dense of individuals. None of us dress the way our parents did at our age.

I often wonder if the

evolution of one thing could have an impact on another. Could the current fads that have evolved in the fashion world change the course of our biological evolution, as a species? If so, the female gender could be diverging—diverging in a frightening way.

Within a couple generations, I predict a portion of the female population shall most likely evolve into a different breed of *Homo sapien*, a breed of *Homo sapien* impervious to cold in their bottom half.

Given the frigid temperature outside, I find myself bundling up and wearing an abundance of clothing to compensate for my body's inability to keep warm. However, it seems having two X-chromosomes has given certain individuals skin so thick, pants are no longer required outdoors. The single-digit temperatures have no effect.

Tights, most appropriate for a staging of *Peter Pan*, have

replaced pants as the necessary attire for the female nether-region, even in the great outdoors. Can you say brrrr? I don't even like changing my underwear in my room when the heat isn't working; I can't imagine facing the arctic winds with only a thin layer of fabric for protection.

This evolution—a south-of-the-border, thick-skinned situation—leads me to believe that women will begin developing excess blubbery deposits, disproportioning and widening the bottom of the female figure. This is the only logical explanation for the other fashion evolutionary trend, the UGG boot.

History has shown that women often make inappropriate decisions regarding footwear.

“This amassing increase allows women to become the ultimate Weeble-Wobble.”

Look at the Chinese, who bound and wrapped their feet for centuries. Now, instead of binding and wrapping them in bandages, ladies choose to just wrap them in sheepskin and dead squirrels. However, these boots, given their ostentatious size, provide more ample support for the amply expanding appendages formerly known as shapely.

Thinking like the evolutionary scientist Core 6 has lectured me to be, this amassing increase allows women to become the ultimate Weeble-Wobble. However, developments of this voluminous nature will render those of a feminine persuasion hideous and utterly unattractive. Fugly.

The aforementioned gender, in its newly appalling evolutionary state, would result in the immediate decline of global birth rates. This declination would bottom out at nil. It doesn't take a science major to realize what that means...

Girls wearing tights instead of pants in the middle of winter will cause the extinction of all humankind.

THE STUDENT FORUM: RESPECT ON CAMPUS

For four years, I've been a member of the Saint Joseph's College Band and that has given me the wonderful opportunity to support the football and basketball teams at all of the games here on campus. In addition, I've had plenty of opportunities to go outside of what is required by the syllabus in band to play at basketball games the band normally wouldn't be at. I do it because I really enjoy being there to support the team when they travel away to play in the GLVC tournament or when they have games at home over breaks, when students aren't on campus to come and support the teams.

I've often heard about the good relationship that SJC athletes have with the band students. I actually got to see that first hand when Coach Massoels paid for the band to have pizza

after a basketball game at the end of first semester when most of the student body wasn't on campus anymore.

While I certainly don't think that the band deserves a reciprocated level of adoration, I always assumed there was some level of respect for the support that we give on an ongoing basis for the athletic teams. I certainly don't think that the athletes need to come to band concerts and scream their lungs out for the low brass section, but I don't think we'd mind if they did.

In some cultures, I've heard that urinating on something is the most degrading and offensive act a person can commit. This past weekend, I had the unfortunate displeasure of witnessing the aforementioned degradable act. There is a magazine rack outside Robb Thiel's office in the

basement of the Halleck Center. Unfortunately for this magazine rack, Core XI isn't but a few feet away. It was here where I saw the level of respect I thought the athletes had for the band disappear.

I can understand that people tend to make mistakes while under the influence, which was apparent, but it's acts such as this which could lead to the ruining of a good thing for students, Core XI. I do not want to see that happen, nor do I want to see animosity between band students and athletes. However, it is now evident to me that the relationship between the band and the coaches is inconsistent with that of the band and the athletic students.

I want to wish the best to the basketball teams as they embark on the postseason, but it pains me to say that I no longer have

any desire to give up my spring break and come support you at the GLVC tournament.

Tom Lohmuller
Senior Computer
Science Major

Have Your Voice Be Heard

Do you have any concerns with policies on campus? Are there issues you think need to be discussed? Tell us about it! *The Observer* is always looking for a guest columnist. Please send your op-ed pieces or letters to the editor to Mike Koscielny at mkn6466@saintjoe.edu attached as a Word document.

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OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

Love is Patient, Love is “Blind”

By Eileen Mills-Groninger
Staff Writer

Another Valentine’s Day has come and gone, and there were several hopeful choices that many couples (or singletons) could have chosen to fix their need for romance and love. *Valentine’s Day* and *Dear John* were among the top contenders, but my date and I chose a different kind of love story: “The Blind Side,” starring Sandra Bullock. Now, don’t get me wrong, this is not the kind of love story that we are used to, but it is a story about love and friendship.

The movie tracks the life of football hero “Big Mike” Oher from the time he was in high school through his acceptance into college. There is not much to give away in this movie since it would be easy enough to track any pro-ball player’s life, but Michael Oher’s fame started from less-than-humble beginnings.

The movie begins with Michael being questioned about an unknown event, and then smoothly transitions back in time

to two years earlier upon his enrollment into Wingate High School. Big Mike, as he is called because of his immense size, has only known poverty in the projects and one change of clothes in a plastic bag.

To go from such poverty to being likely the only African American student in this new Caucasian, upper-middle class school was difficult. Many of the teachers just assumed that he was completely stupid, illiterate, and not worth their time, but one young teacher fought for him. Aside from classes, the first friend he makes is a little boy by the name of S.J. Tuohy, a clever, ambitious young boy who just enjoys making friends, regardless of what he sees on the outside.

S.J.’s mother, Leigh Anne, and father, Sean, see Big Mike around, and one night as the family is driving home, they notice him walking in the rain by himself. Puzzled and concerned, they take him into their home to let him stay the night. This marks the beginning of their relationship and their friendship.

Big Mike had grown up in foster care as a ward of the state, but with the help of the Tuohy’s and from the school, he is able to raise his grades and join the football team. From there, most people can figure out what happened next, but the way it happens is what makes it such a sweet and lovely movie. The Tuohy’s eventually adopt him as their own son so that they can help him get a driver’s license and a life as he prepares for his future, and they help him choose a college: Ole Miss, their Alma Mater.

Throughout the process, you get to see the friendship and love that is between the whole Tuohy family and Michael (as he prefers to be called). When it circles back to the first scene, the viewer knows that Michael may have been nudged in the direction of Ole Miss, but the choice was his own. (His later response to the woman questioning him is quite sweet and touching.)

This movie was absolutely fantastic, and Sandra Bullock did a wonderful job as Leigh

Anne Touhy. Quinton Aaron, who plays the role of Michael Oher, also did a phenomenal job, and Tim McGraw put in quite a performance as well. I really liked the way that it ended with original film reels of the real Michael Oher as he is drafted into the NFL. The way this movie flows is just natural and easy, and it is simply a great movie.

Overall, I highly recommend this film to anyone who just wants to be reminded that there are good people in the world, in all shapes, sizes, colors, denominations, and other variations. It is a true human love story.



(Photo courtesy of <http://blackchristiannews.com/news/images/the-blind-side-movie-225.jpg>)

Disappointing Effort By an Excellent Songwriter

By Michael Garrity
Staff Writer

This was probably pretty easily in my top five most anticipated albums of last year. Without regard to how corny this will probably sound, John Nolan authored what may be the most important album that I have yet come across in my young life. As guitarist and vocalist for Long Island group Taking Back Sunday, Nolan was a major component in creating *Tell All Your Friends*, the album that was essentially the soundtrack to my early high school years. Though he left the band shortly after the album was released, I continued to follow his career as well as that of Taking Back Sunday. While the originals took more steps back than forward, John went on to co-create Straylight Run, who also had a great self-titled debut, followed by a string of good EPs and one other full-length album that surpassed their first.

“Stoked” was the word that best describes how I felt when I found out that my boy was going to release a solo record. Like many on the internet, I had visions of a stripped down, acoustic amalgamation of the work of his two bands. I was surprised, then, when I first sat down with *Height* and discovered it to be an electrocoustic effort, for lack of an actual term. The acoustic guitar or stripped down piano were there in most songs, as expected, but this is in addition to electronic beats and music. The sound is eclectic, for sure, but at the end of the album one is left to wonder if the experiment worked as well as I’m sure Nolan had hoped it would.

The one thing that stands out more than anything in



(Photo courtesy of http://c3.ac-images.myspacecdn.com/images02/57/1_003bd1dc9b764a2cb9fe15e1445ed72e.jpg)

the songwriting is that literally every song follows the same progression, always culminating in a highly climactic ending. I won’t lie, I’m a sucker for this format, but it is horribly overdone on the album and only really “works” on a couple of tracks. At other times, it seems way too forced. About the same can be said for the work on this album lyrically, as well. A couple of songs are good (like “Not To Let Go” or “I Don’t Believe You”), others seem scattered and incoherent (see: “Screaming Into the Wind”), and still some appear as if he just wasn’t trying (“Here I Am”). He may not be Bob Dylan, but Nolan’s lyrics have always been better than average at least. Throughout this album, though, it seems like he was just dialing it in, in the worst way.

Not to harp on the negative, there are some highlights on this disc. “Til It’s Done to Death,” is one of the best songs, and a perfect example of the sound that he is going for. The “electrocoustic” experiment

is never better than on this track. If not one of the best, “Screaming Into the Wind” is at least one of the most unique songs that he has ever attempted, based around a kickass bass line. “Keep Calm and Carry On” has a great rhythm, while

“Not To Let Go” (co-written by a fan as part of an online collaboration project) stands as an absolutely perfect track to end the album with, thanks to its upbeat atmosphere and uplifting tone. The best song, however, is a cover of Primitive Radio Gods’ “Standing Outside a Broken Phone Booth With Money in My Hand.” Whether or not the fact of the best song being a cover is a good or bad thing is up to the

reader to decide, I guess. It really is a shame, as this album had the potential to be so much better than it eventually was. Nolan’s songwriting credentials speak for themselves, and I get the feeling that he is just burnt out at this point from years of writing, recording, and touring. Just this week, Straylight Run announced they are going on an indefinite hiatus (aka, nice break up), so with any luck Nolan will get a chance to rest up and produce a masterpiece in his next effort. Though *Height* is not a bad record, it is not a good one, either. To be quite honest, had I not decided to write this review, I probably would not have listened to it again for some time. For some really great stuff by this guy, I would suggest Taking Back Sunday’s *Tell All Your Friends* and Straylight Run’s *The Needles the Space*, and just let this one pass you by. Still, do yourself a favor and checkout that Primitive Radio Gods cover.



(Photo courtesy of http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_tSuRS-rxDwA/SzEs89pf1yI/AAAAAAB10/dmWpdwHvE8I/s1600-h/john_nolan.jpg) John Nolan - Height

John Nolan - Height

Track Listing:

1. The End of the Beginning
2. Til It’s Done to Death
3. It Takes a Long Time
4. Screaming Into the Wind
5. I Don’t Believe You
6. Standing Outside a Broken Phone Booth with Money in My Hand
7. Here I Am
8. Keep Calm and Carry On
9. I Won’t Ever Be There
10. Not To Let Go

Producer: John Nolan

Release Date: October 27, 2009

Best Songs: “Standing Outside a Broken Phone Booth with Money in My Hand” “Til It’s Done to Death” and “Not To Let Go”

Smoke and Mirrors Defeating Life's Many Failures

By Sandra Blum
Staff Writer

It's all done with smoke and mirrors, the old explanation goes. Whenever anything seemingly magical occurs, someone always assures us, it's nothing but an illusion using smoke and mirrors. But what happens when the magic occurs within the imagination, and not in the world of vision? Does the magic actually exist then, or are we merely creating an illusion using the smoke and mirrors of our minds?

In his book *Smoke and Mirrors*, Neil Gaiman sets up world after world of wondrous tales full of fancy, terror, and the surreal. Some are easy to discount as nothing but the inner workings of an overactive imagination and others are set in such a real environment, so eerily like our own world, that Gaiman might just have you asking if such a thing could happen to you.

Part the veil cast by the smoke to discover the secret hiding place of the Holy Grail, the true story of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves, and what happens when you run into a troll who has every intention of eating you. Sit down at a magic show with a little boy and watch with him as his grandmother is taken on stage and put into a vanishing box. Have you ever wondered how to get in touch with an assassin, or maybe you're more interested in what lies at the end of the world? You can find the

answers inside the pages of these short stories. Just be careful not to inhale too much smoke, and keep a close watch out for the mirrors, you never know when one will pop up.

This collection of short stories by the master of fantasy is a brilliant read for anyone looking for a chance to escape for those few minutes between hectic classes, for each story holds a small world all its own. While some reader discretion is advised, there are plenty of stories to choose from to enjoy, and you may end up being pleasantly surprised in the end. Without doubt at any rate, Gaiman will have you asking at the end of every tale which ones are true, and which ones employ the art of Smoke and Mirrors.



(Picture courtesy of http://ebooks-imgs.connect.com/ebooks/product/400/000/000/000/000/046/056/40000000000000000046056_s4.jpg)

By Jennifer Ruff
Features Editor

Failure is a concept that has been around for a very long time and I believe it is safe to assume we all have experienced it at one time or another. Failure is defined as the state or condition of not meeting a desirable or intended objective, and may also be viewed as the opposite of success.

What I think is so interesting about the definition of this very familiar concept is that it defines failure as individually defined. What I mean by that is that we are the ones that make goals for ourselves and therefore are also

the ones who decide if we succeed or fail at that given thing. Failure is not determined on its own or by a jury of our peers. We are the only ones to decide when we fail.

With that said, is it then safe to say that we as a society are setting ourselves up for failure? Think about your own life for a minute. How hard are you on your performances in life, whether



Is it really that easy? (Picture courtesy of http://www.petersonandassociates.com/MP&Assets/success_failure.jpg)

good thing because it shows my extreme dedication in the areas of my life. Though this is true, it can also be an extreme burden to me because it allows me to become down on myself and also lets me create my failures.

The other day while surfing the internet I found a quote by Tom Krause that really changed my view of failure. He said "There are no failures - just experiences and your reactions to them." This hit me and made me realize that I needed to change my outlook on failure. I just have to try to judge every moment of my life not by how well I complete the tasks laid out in front of me, but on how I react to the experiences that come my way. If you are like me and have a hard time letting go of your life failures, think about that quote and try to sit back and simply experience your life.

they be in the classroom, on the court, on the stage or in life in general? Do you criticize yourself for every wrong move you make? Do you ever call yourself a failure?

I can honestly admit that I am one of those people. I know that I am my toughest critic in anything that I do. Some might say that this is a



(Photo courtesy of <http://www.sohoblog.org/images/home-business-worker/failure-1.gif>)

Dorm Life or Living With Preschoolers

By Andrew Dudich
Staff Writer

Everyone close to me knows that I've been complaining lately. I try never to complain unless something truly frustrates me, and there's nothing more frustrating, in my opinion, than the immaturity of others. For the past two semesters, I have resided in Seifert East. This small dwelling across from the Core Building is mostly quiet and has some wonderful residents that I've had the pleasure of meeting. However, the dorm is evidently a madhouse when I'm not around. The Fall 2009 semester resulted in numerous idiotic dorm charges. I voiced my opinion on the lack of fairness in the distribution of cost, but as I don't know a better way to handle the expenses, I usually keep my voice to a minimum. This semester pushed me over the edge with the purloining of a flat screen television from the second floor lounge.

Great job, Seifert East. You have managed to nail me with yet another charge for something I didn't even use. I'm beginning to think that it would be more cost effective to get a sex change and live on the West side. At least there, billboards aren't ripped down by disgruntled inhabitants after 24 hours, and residents don't

steal your wardrobe from the laundry room. I have yet to see my clothing worn by someone else or on a sinister-looking snowman, so I can only assume that it is being used as toilet paper due to the lack of supplies in the restrooms. Or perhaps, it is being used to cover up a television in the backseat of someone's car...

Housing occasionally makes an effort to work with residents on these charges. Although claims have been made that itemized lists are instantly posted after charges have incurred, I only saw one flier the entire semester for the whole dorm. Whether more were issued, I know not, but only one was prominently displayed.

In other dorm news, I had to vacuum my room today and thereby set off to find the ever-elusive Seifert vacuum cleaner. Sometimes it's upstairs, sometimes it's downstairs, sometimes it's invisible, because I never find it. Today there were two. A neighboring dorm must have had a litter of small vacuums and it was time to leave the nest. I brought the upstairs vacuum to my room, plugged it in, and turned it on. Instantly, hundreds of small, white foamy beads such as those found in a beanbag, flooded my room from the vacuum's filter. I was slightly more overjoyed than receiving a surprise essay exam

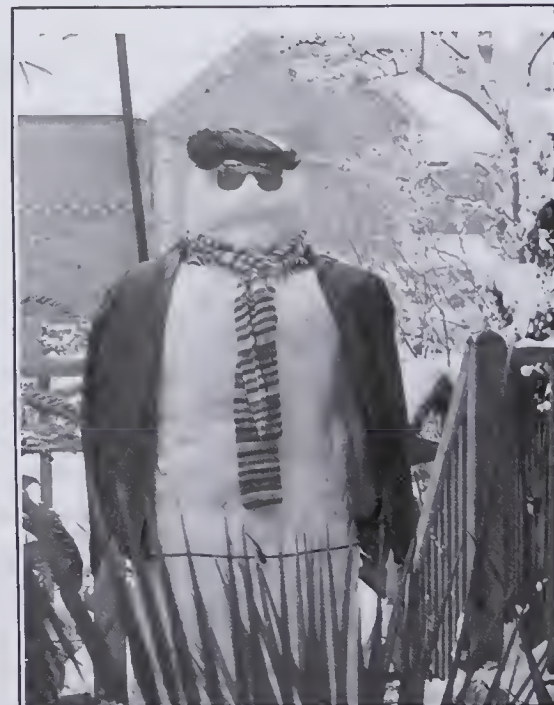
in Core. I cleaned the filter and tried to sweep up the million little beads that had invaded my room. No success. No suction. I investigated the machine further only to realize that the vacuum intake was completely clogged. I took the vacuum to the restroom and proceeded to disassemble the sweeping mechanism in order to unclog the tubing. In the process, I noticed that there was considerable wear on the belt. Figuring that this was a housing or maintenance concern and not a resident's, I disregarded the belt and reassembled the cleaned vacuum. I resumed sweeping in my room, this time with considerable suction, and no sooner than 5 seconds in, the machine began to smoke. I instantly checked the belt and as I had presumed, it had snapped. Beads were still all over my room, but this time a burning rubber smell added to my room's festivities. I wrote a note about the problem, returned the machine, and utilized the first floor vacuum to clean up the mess. As a result, I would like to issue my own dorm charge to housing. I would like twenty dollars by the end of the week for performing the maintenance on the dorm's vacuum cleaner. It took me nearly an hour to entirely clean the machine, and if a belt is provided, I will replace that also. I expect my check by next week.

Seifert is not alone in dorm problems and damages, and I do not blame housing for any of these charges; I blame the residents. Not all of you, but anyone who could have done something. I blame you who saw people rough-housing in the halls and didn't say anything to them. I blame you who got drunk and stumbled recklessly through window screens. I blame you who raged about the restroom, kicking in stall doors. I blame you who allowed greedy

people into a dorm with a flat screen television. I blame you who knew but didn't say anything. You stole from us all.

I realize that our RA's aren't constantly on patrol, but they aren't paid to be babysitters. If that's what you need, perhaps you should go back to daycare. This is college. You're about to enter into the real world.

If you are careless enough to damage or steal property from your employer, you'll be instantly fired and no one is ever going to look at your job application again. If you want to make your living by stealing car stereos, you're well on your way, because that's the only place that will hire you. Get ready for the real world and grow up. While you're at it, give me back my clothes.



Could this be the thief? (Photo courtesy of http://farm1.static.flickr.com/125/389037333_7bbe792d8c.jpg)

Esposito Resigns After Five Seasons

By Ken Badylak

Sports Information Director

Saint Joseph's College head football coach Lou Esposito has stepped down from his post which he has held for the past five seasons and taken a job as the defensive line coach at Western Michigan University. Esposito's last day was Tuesday, February 9th as he assisted with the transition of A.J. Ricker becoming the 18th Head Coach in SJC history.

"It has been a tremendous honor to be a part of the SJC family," said Esposito. "Making this decision has been a difficult one because of the loyalty the SJC family has shown me over the years."

While the head coach of the Pumas, Esposito posted 29 career victories, which is fourth all-time, against 25 losses. He is among five coaches in the program's history that have left SJC with a winning record. During his tenure Esposito saw the Pumas post a record of 36-29. His predecessor, Tim Lester, who Esposito was a coordinator for in 2004 finished 7-4.

This past season Esposito became the fastest coach to achieve 25 career victories since Robert Jauron who coached the Pumas from 1954-58. Jauron and Joseph Dienhart (1938-42) are the only two coaches that coached at least five seasons and held a winning percentage higher than Coach Esposito's .534. The Pumas finished this season 5-6 but went undefeated in Great Lakes Football Conference play earning their third GLFC title in Esposito's tenure

"Coach Esposito was part of a core of coaches that elevated our program over the past six years," said Director of Athletics Bill Massoels '89. "In the future we will strive to continue to operate our football program with the same dedication and standards Lou instilled. Although he was only part of the SJC family for for



Photo: Lou Esposito resigned as Head Coach of the Saint Joseph's College men's football team after five seasons. The Pumas won three GLFC titles under coach Esposito, who has taken a job as the defensive line coach at Western Michigan University. (Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.)

six years, we think of Lou as an alumnus of the College through his continuous efforts of embracing the community."

A.J. Ricker was hired as an offensive line coach in January of 2009. In one season, the offensive line averaged 179.5 rushing yards and only allowed two sacks per game. Ricker earned the mantel of Great Lakes Football Conference

Assistant Coach of the Year in 2009 for his SJC offensive scheme efforts.

"I am fortunate to have the opportunity of being the head football coach at Saint Joseph's College," said Coach Ricker. "This program has been elevated over the years and we will continue to put forth our best efforts on and off the the field."

Prior to coming to SJC, Ricker spent three years coaching at Western Michigan University as a graduate assistant before being promoted to offensive assistant coach in 2008. At the University of Missouri, Ricker started at center and currently holds the school record for consecutive starts with 47.

"Coach Ricker is an

impressive person who has embraced Saint Joseph's College and the Rensselaer community," added Massoels. "We anticipate he will be a great leader of our football program. His loyalty to the program and sense of responsibility to the players are tremendous assets that will continue to take this program to new heights."

Dunk Contest Results: Fans Lose

By Tomas Caraballo

Staff Writer

Two years ago, Dwight Howard breathed new life into the NBA Dunk Contest with his "Superman" dunk. Last year, 5'9" Nate Robinson put on a show when he dressed in all green and jumped over the 7'0" Howard who was wearing his superman cape to dunk a green basketball.

Sadly, this years dunk contest was terrible. After seeing all those Sprite commercials advertising this year's contest for months, the fans in the stands and anybody watching at home were left thinking, "What the hell was that?!" I've done better dunks than those on the Little Tikes rim in my living room.

Demar Derozan was the only

competitor who put on a somewhat respectable performance, or perhaps it just seemed that way after watching the other three leap around like monkeys with their heads chopped off. There were dunks done during the All-Star game that were more impressive than the ones displayed during the contest.

After the pitiful showing, some people must be wondering if the dunk contest should continue. A tradition that began back in 1976 has become one of the dullest events of all-star weekend.

Perhaps holding the event once every two years will give the contestants sufficient time to think of something that hasn't already been done before. Or if it really wants to entertain fans, the NBA

should hold a free throw shootout involving only the worst players in the league.

Until then, fans of the NBA will just watch dunks that they've seen countless times and wonder if the dunk contest will ever again be fun to watch. Even the commentators were getting restless. Former Pacers great

Reggie Miller threatened to go suit up in the locker room, and Charles Barkley went off on a tangent about Reggie Bush who, Barkley reminded us, won a Super Bowl with the New Orleans Saints recently.

It's a good thing someone decided to provide the viewers with some entertainment, because

the contestants certainly didn't seem interested in doing so. Maybe if LeBron James actually had competed, as he said he would, there might have been something worth watching. But instead, viewers were forced to sit through dunks that 44 year old Reggie Miller does every day at the Calabasas Rec Center.

For those who thought the Pro Bowl was painful to watch, the Dunk Contest caused more fans to cringe than Jay Cutler dropping back for a pass. Hopefully, Dwight Howard will don his Superman cape again next year and save the country from another excruciating viewing experience.



Photo: Watching the 2010 NBA Dunk Contest was like watching paint dry. (Photo courtesy of images.dpchallenge.com)

United States, Germany Get Off to Fast Starts in Vancouver

By Jeremy Butterfield
Staff Writer

The 2010 Vancouver Olympics started off on a bad note when some hydraulics did not work during the opening ceremony, but since then all the events have been going well for everyone.

America is currently leading in total medals with Germany close behind them. With there being 86 medaling events, only so many of the 82 countries could get medals. Most of the time, we will see the same countries winning each medal. Unlike the previous summer Olympics, the winter games have not really seen a dominant individual come out and win all of the events like Michael Phelps did two years ago. With the winter events, you will see countries dominate an event.

In the luge this year, Germany has five medals while the next closest, Austria, has two medals. America is currently dominating alpine skiing and snowboarding for medaling. For snowboarding, the U.S. has the market cornered with five people medaling in four events. The rest of the snowboarding events will be held the 26th through the 27th. Alpine skiing will also finish up on the 27th.

America is competing in 79 events with 216 competitors. The U.S.A. would love to win in all of the events, but there are some events that other countries specialize in that the U.S. does not. They also have the most competitors at the Olympics with Canada close behind with 206. Canada, being the host country, was supposed to be doing amazing, but they are currently in fourth in the medal standings. But what really matters to them is winning the hockey medal. The bad news for America is that they are in the same bracket as Canada, and some experts say we may have the hardest time getting to the championship.

As of right now, it looks like the United States will end the Games as the top medal finisher, but we'll see how it plays out.



TOP: Canada's Sidney Crosby scored the game winner in a shootout against Switzerland on Thursday, February 18th..(Photos courtesy of www.examiner.com) BOTTOM:

Men's Tennis Team Defeats Earlham in Dramatic Fashion

By Ken Badylak
Sports Information Director

The Saint Joseph's College men's tennis team opened the 2010 spring season with a dramatic 5-4 win over Earlham College at the Hanson REC Center on Friday. The fourth consecutive year the two teams have met and the Pumas have always had their way with the Quakers, winning the previous two contests 9-0.

Earlham came into the match 3-1 and featured two undefeated

freshman in their top two singles spots. EC's Henry Levin and Brad Maisley remained undefeated as the duo snatched three points away from the Pumas' on the day. Levin and Maisley also teamed up at number one doubles. However, the Pumas (3-2) proved to have the depth by narrowly escaping three tight matches.

The match was decided at number five singles where the stage was set for Matt Slawson (So. Crown Point In./Lake Central). With the overall team score deadlocked at 4-4, Slawson

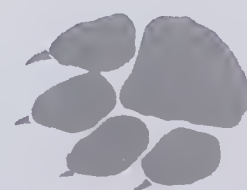
dropped the first set 4-6, but rallied back to win the second set 6-3 and force a third set tie-breaker.

Slawson overcame the pressure of being down 3-1 early in the tie breaker and closed out the match on serve 11-9. Slawson also teamed with Roger Michels (Fr. Greenwood In./Whiteland) for another tie-breaker win at number three doubles 9-8(7-4). Michels also proved to be clutch in his singles match as he won in a third set tie-break as well.

SJC will host Concordia

University (IL) Saturday, February 27th at the Hanson REC Center. The match is scheduled to start at 12 p.m. CST.

Photo: Sophomore Matt Slawson gave the Pumas the victory with an 11-9 win in a third set tie-breaker. Slawson dropped the first set 6-3 but rallied to win the next two. (Photo courtesy of SJC Sports Information)



Puma Tennis Profile: Miguel Belcina

By Ben Kalinowski
Sports Editor

Year? Junior

Major? Accounting & Economics

Hometown? Windsor, ON

Favorite Sports Movie? Miracle

When did you start playing tennis?

When I was 10 years old.

What do you like more, singles or doubles? Why?

I like playing doubles more. With four people on the court you get a lot of good points going. I like to play the net, and doubles gives you more of a chance to do that.

Who is your favorite professional tennis player?

Fernando Gonzalez. He plays with a lot of intensity and I like his playing style. He is very aggressive and likes to take risky shots, and he also has the best forehand in the game

Who's taking gold at the Olympics in hockey?

Canada - who else?

Who is your biggest role model and why?

My dad. He works hard and doesn't ask for any recognition. He is always willing to make sacrifices for his family. I always try to work as hard and be as selfless as him.

Best vacation you've ever been on?

The Phillipines. It was nice visiting relatives, and the resorts were amazing.

Best tennis shot you've ever seen?

Roger Federer's tweener on Djokovic. That was an unreal shot!



Miguel Belcina is a junior Accounting and Economics major on the Saint Joseph's College men's tennis team. You might know him as Mowgli. (Photo courtesy of SJC Sports Information)

Best flavor of Mountain Dew? LiveWire.

What is the coolest place you've ever played tennis at?

The Rexall Center in Toronto, where the pros play for the Rogers Cup. I played there twice for the provincial qualifiers.

What's your goal for the upcoming season?

Just to get better all around and translate it into some wins. I really want the team to make it to the conference tournament.

Favorite musical group?

If I had to pick a favorite, it would probably be Bon Jovi or Kings of Leon. John Mayer is up there too.

Do either of your parents play tennis?

My dad plays. My brother and I took our first tennis lessons with him.

Why did you come to Saint Joseph's College?

I visited here twice and I liked what I saw both times. Everyone on the tennis team was cool and I liked the class sizes. Also, I would only be about five hours from home.

What's the fastest you've ever clocked you serve at?

We used a radar gun at a summer camp when I was younger and I got it up to 60 mph. It would be higher now, though.



Karma and the Cosmos

By Mystical Martha



Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)
You find a wallet on the ground and pick it up. There are \$50 inside, and you quickly look at the ID to see who might have dropped it. You realize that it is your wallet that you must have dropped earlier, only there used to be \$100 inside.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May. 19)
You are angry lately, so you order a flamethrower from Ebay and are much happier than you were before.

Gemini (May 20-June 20)
You find out that someone has been talking about you behind your back. At first, you are upset until you realize that people are talking about how awesome you are and are too afraid to tell it to your face because they secretly worship you and your awesomeness.

Cancer (June 21-July 21)
A sudden love of sappy country songs drives away all of your friends and your RA can't even stand to come close enough to your room to write you up.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 22)
Even though it is nowhere near Halloween, you decide to dress up one week as a different Spice Girl for each weekday.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 21)
You contract a weird, but harmless disease that gives you the power to control other people's hair. Girls you hate don't understand why their hair is sticking straight up when they leave class, no matter how much hair spray they put in.

Libra (Sept. 22- Oct. 22)
You are a very loving and caring person. So much so that people have begun to leave flowers by your door and more chocolate than you could ever eat. Some people think you died since there are so many flowers outside your room.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
You throw the coolest lame party ever. You play lots of 90s techno, put in a blacklight, and snort Pixie Stix and pretend it's cocaine. Everyone stares for a moment at the shock of it, then leaves.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 20)
You are feeling manly and go out hunting wolves in the middle of the night. You howl and bang around in the woods for a few hours, but nothing comes of your adventures except some

scratches and a feeling of oneness with nature.

Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 19)
You try to give up breathing for Lent. You end up in the hospital where they force you to breathe and then send you to the psych ward until Easter.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 17)
Mesmerized by the weather warming up, one sunny day you just stare at the sun and spin around until you pass out. Then a snowstorm comes and buries you until morning. You blindly dig your way out and then cry, but your tears freeze.

Pisces (Feb. 18-Mar. 20)
LOLZ U stp using prpr grammerrrr 4 a weak 2 annoy UR PrOfs! OMG!!!!

Overheard

If you've heard anything scandalous at the cafeteria, anything outrageous enough that you can't keep it to yourself, then look no further! Submit your anonymous comments to ehq7585@saintjoe.edu today to let your peers' voices be heard!

~
"I like it when I can feel useful...not like a third nipple."

~
"Basketball, it's a contact sport. It's almost as contact as chess."

~
"It looks like cardboard but tastes like bananas!"

~
"Why do you think I'd like snowman porn!?"

~
"I don't remember anything from last night but I feel good."

Every issue we will be including a spotlight on all of the Measure submitters. We will be taking the best submissions and including them here, in the Measure Spotlight! If you have any poems or short stories you would like to submit, let us know. Send them to Elysse Hillyer at ehq7585.

Fact of the Matter

In a lifetime, an average person will walk the equivalent of 5 equators.

Your nails grow faster in outer space.

-40 degrees Celsius is the same temperature as -40 degrees Fahrenheit.

In the past, when a clan no longer wanted a member in it, they would burn down his house. This is where the expression "to get fired" comes from.

The average human accidentally eats eight spiders in their lifetime.

If you keep a goldfish in the dark, it will eventually turn white.

On average, people who use their right hand live nine years longer than people who use their left.

12 newborn children will be given to the wrong parents daily.

Courtesy of www.purpleslinky.com



Words of Wisdom

"You can turn painful situations around through laughter. If you can find humor in anything, even poverty, you can survive it."
Bill Cosby

"Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies."
Aristotle

"If you do not breathe through writing, if you do not cry out in writing, or sing in writing, then don't write, because our culture has no use for it."
Anais Nin

Courtesy of www.brainyquote.com

Fountain Stone Theaters

Movies for February 25
(219) 866-2222
fountainstonetheaters.com

Dear John (PG-13)
Sun: 2:10, 4:30, 6:50
Mon-Thurs: 4:30, 6:50
Saturday: 2:25, 4:40

Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief (PG)
Sun: 2:00, 4:20, 6:40
Mon-Thurs: 4:20, 6:40
Sat: 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 8:50

Shutter Island (R)
Sun: 1:40, 4:00, 6:20
Mon-Thurs: 4:00, 6:20
Sat: 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40

The Wolfman (R)
Sun: 2:20, 4:40, 7:00
Mon-Thurs: 4:40, 7:00
Sat: 7:00, 9:00

Valentine's Day (PG-13)
Sun: 1:50, 4:10, 6:30
Mon-Thurs: 4:10, 6:30
Sat: 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50

Coming Soon!

Cop Out

Alice in Wonderland

Diary of a Wimpy Kid

The Ritz Cinema

Movies for February 25
(219) 866-0086
www.ritzcinema.net

Extraordinary Measures (PG)
Every night at 7:30

Coming Soon!
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel

Measure Spotlight

Photograph by
Erin Melvin